Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently amended) A method of increasing muscle function in a subject suffering from severe wasting, said method comprising administering to said subject ~~a~~ the GRF analog (hexenoyl trans-3)hGRF(1-44)NH_2 (SEQ ID NO: 7), wherein said subject has at least one of the following characteristics:

(a) said subject has a body mass index less than or equal to 20;

(b) said subject has a weight less than 90% of ideal body weight;

(c) said subject is a male and said subject has a fat free mass index less than or equal to 16; or

(d) said subject is a female and said subject has a fat free mass index less than or equal to 15.

~~of formula A:~~

~~X-GRF Peptide (A)~~

~~wherein;~~

~~the GRF peptide is a peptide of formula B;~~

~~A1-A2-Asp-Ala-Ile-Phe-Thr-A8-Ser-Tyr-Arg-Lys-A13-Leu-A15-Gln-Leu-A18-Ala-Arg-Lys-Leu-Leu-A24-A25-Ile-A27-A28-Arg-A30-R0 (B) (SEQ ID NO: 1)~~

~~wherein,~~

~~A1 is Tyr or His;~~

~~A2 is Val or Ala;~~

~~A8 is Asn or Ser;~~

~~A13 is Val or Ile;~~

~~A15 is Ala or Gly;~~

~~A18 is Ser or Tyr;~~

~~A24 is Gln or His;~~

~~A25 is Asp or Glu;~~

~~A27 is Met, Ile or Nle~~

~~A28 is Ser or Asn;~~

~~A30 is a bond or amino acid sequence of 1 up to 15 residues; and~~

~~R0 is NH_2 or NH (CH_2)n $CONH_2$, with n=1 to 12; and~~

~~X is a hydrophobic tail anchored via an amide bond to the N-terminus of the peptide and the hydrophobic tail defining a backbone of 5 to 7 atoms;~~

~~wherein the backbone can be substituted by C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, or C_{6-12} aryl and the backbone comprises at least one rigidifying moiety connected to at least two atoms of the backbone;~~

~~said moiety selected from the group consisting of double bond, triple bond, saturated or unsaturated C_{3-9} cycloalkyl, and C_{6-12} aryl.~~

4-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said muscle function is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) muscle strength;

(b) muscle endurance; and

(c) both (a) and (b).

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said muscle function is muscle strength.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said muscle strength is peripheral muscle strength.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said muscle function is muscle endurance.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said administering ~~increase results in a reduction of~~ reduces a parameter selected from the group consisting of:

(a) breathing discomfort;

(b) leg discomfort; and

(c) both (a) and (b).

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said administering ~~increase results in an~~ increases ~~in~~ lean body mass in said subject.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said administering ~~increase results in a~~ decreases ~~in~~ fat mass in said subject.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 ~~15~~, wherein said wasting is associated with a condition selected from the group consisting of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic renal failure, congestive hear failure, human immunodeficiency virus infection, acquired

immunodeficiency syndrome, cancer, malnutrition, frailty, immobilization paraplegia and spinal disorder.

17-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said GRF analog is administered through a route selected from the group consisting of intravenous, oral, transdermal, subcutaneous, mucosal, intramuscular, intranasal, intrapulmonary, parenteral, intrarectal and topical.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said GRF analog is administered in a dose from about 0.0001 mg to about 4 mg.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said GRF analog is administered in a dose selected from the group consisting of about 1 mg and about 2 mg.

25-80. (Cancelled)